

**REMARKS**

This Amendment is being filed as a supplement to the Amendment filed on July 25, 2003 for purposes of adding new dependent Claim 17. This new claim is patentably distinguishable over the disclosures contained in *Wakata et al.* and *Yamaguchi et al.* at least by virtue of its dependence upon allowable independent Claim 9. In addition, Claim 17 further distinguishes the claimed braking force distribution control device by reciting that the wheel target braking force computing means computes, based on the estimated road surface  $\mu$  slopes of the respective wheels and the target braking force of the vehicle, the target braking forces of the respective wheels so that a relation among the estimated road surface  $\mu$  slopes of the respective wheels is a predetermined relation. Neither *Wakata et al.* nor *Yamaguchi et al.* discloses providing a wheel target braking force computing means that computes, on the basis of the estimated road surface  $\mu$  slopes of the respective wheels and the target braking force of the vehicle, the target braking forces of the respective wheels such that a relation among the estimated road surface  $\mu$  slopes of the respective wheels is a predetermined relation.

Early and favorably consideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Should any questions arise in connection with this application or should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference with the undersigned would be helpful in

resolving any remaining issues pertaining to this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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